

Message Text

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16
ACTION EA-09

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TAGS: PINT, KS
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT PAK ISSUES 28TH CONSTITUTION DAY ADDRESS

BEGIN SUMMARY: ON CONSTITUTION DAY, JULY 17,
PRESIDENT PAK ISSUED BRIEF BUT PERHAPS CLEAREST STATEMENT
THUS FAR OF HIS FUNDAMENTAL POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY, CALLING
FOR RETURN TO TRADITIONAL VALUES EPITOMIZED IN SAEMAUL
(NEW VILLAGE MOVEMENT) PRINCIPLES OF HARD WORK, SELF-HELP,
AND COOPERATION WHICH HE TERMED "SOUL OF NATION."
HE ALSO ASSERTED THAT ORIGINAL RESOLUTION OF NATION TO
FOLLOW DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT HAS NOW BEEN FULLY REALIZED
IN YUSHIN (REVITALIZING REFORM) CONSTITUTION. STABILITY,
PROSPERITY AND EFFICIENCY INHERENT IN YUSHIN SYSTEM
KEEP KOREA COMPETITIVE IN COMMUNITY OF NATIONS AND SAFE-
GUARD IT AGAINST THREAT FROM NORTH. END SUMMARY.

1. ON JULY 17, THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF PROCLA-
MATION OF ORIGINAL KOREAN CONSTITUTION, PRESIDENT PAK
OFFERED COGENT, CLEAR RESTATEMENT OF HIS FUNDAMENTAL
POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY WHICH HE HAS BEEN HONING FOR AT LEAST
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PAST TWELVE MONTHS. READ BY PRIME MINISTER, CHOE KYU-HA,

ADDRESS CALLED FOR RETURN TO KOREAN TRADITIONAL VALUES REPRESENTED BY SAEMAUL PRINCIPLES OF HARD WORK, SELF-HELP, AND COOPERATION WHICH PAK CALLED "SOUL OF KOREA" AS TRANSMITTED BY ANCESTORS.

2. TO SURVIVE IN COMPETITIVE ARENA OF NATIONS, KOREA CANNOT AFFORD WASTE OF ITS RESOURCES. HE CLAIMED SAEMAUL PRINCIPLES, ORIGINALLY INSTITUTED IN 1970 IN SUPPORT OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, COMPRISE PRODUCTIVE AND EFFICIENT IDEOLOGY TO ACCELERATE NATION BUILDING AND TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL RESOLVE. MORE THAN ANY BEFORE, SPEECH UNIVERSALIZED SAEMAUL PRINCIPLES, SAYING THAT SPIRIT BEHIND SAEMAUL PROGRAM, AS WELL AS TECHNIQUES THEMSELVES, SHOULD WORK WELL IN ADVANCING NATION AS WHOLE.

3. PAK ALSO MAINTAINED IN SPEECH THAT 1972 YUSHIN CONSTITUTION IS PRACTICAL, EFFICIENT STRUCTURE BY WHICH NATION CAN EFFICIENTLY ADMINISTER ITSELF. PAK NOTED THAT ORILSNAL CALL BY ROK PEOPLE FOR DEMOCRACY IN 1948 HAS NOW BEEN REALIZED IN YUSHIN CONSTITUTION. HE REMINDED NATION THAT "EXPERIMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION OF WESTERN-STYLE DEMOCRACY" AMID WHAT HE CALLED ADVERSE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS LED TO WASTEFUL USE OF NATIONAL RESOURCES." HE MADE A POINT WHICH EDITORIAL IN KOREA HERALD LATER (JULY 19) EXPANDED UPON, THAT A MERE COPYING OF WESTERN STYLE DEMOCRACY WITHOUT DUE HEED TO REALITIES OF INTERNATIONAL SITUATION CANNOT GUARANTEE ITS USEABILITY AND PRACTICALITY. HE SAID THAT CONSTITUTION WITHOUT YUSHIN REFORMS (WHICH INCLUDED, AMONG VARIOUS CHANGES, MAJOR STRENGTHENING OF EXECUTIVE) DID NOT ALLOW NATION TO PROGRESS COMPETITIVELY. COUPLED WITH NORTH KOREAN THREAT, THIS ENDANGERED KOREA'S VERY SURVIVAL.

4. IN SUM, SAID PARK, YUSHIN REFORM OF CONSTITUTION STRENGTHENED BY DEVOTION TO "TRADITIONAL" SAEMAUL SPIRIT CAN BRING ABOUT STABLE AND PROSPEROUS CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT LEADING TO SUCCESSFUL NATION-BUILDING, UNIFICATION AND PEACE.

5. TEXT BEING POUCHED.
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